

A free service for all organisations and individuals who care about life in cities towns and villages including - architects – engineers – planners – landscape architects – urban designers – managers – politicians – public

## **Join the Urban Design Group**

<http://www.udg.org.uk/join>

## **UDG East Midlands Events**

Wed, 29/01/2014 - 6:00pm - 7:00pm - Nottingham

### **Are we Building for Life?**

Stefan Kruczkowski, Nottingham Trent University

### **Water Sensitive Urban Design**

Robert Huxford, Director Urban Design Group

Free event

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/east-midlands/nottingham-urban-design-evening-building-life-suds>

*Following event 26 February – Climate Change etc*

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/east-midlands/urban-design-evenings-1>

## **CALLING ALL LONDON STUDENTS New STREET Facebook page launched**

<https://www.facebook.com/streetudg?ref=hl>

## ***Join up – stay in touch!***

## **What were the landmarks for towns, cities and urban design in 2013**

We have conducted a very quick trawl of the editions of **Urban Update** for 2013 and here are some of the things that were flagged up.

- Blanket 20 mph urban speed limits achieve tipping point in UK and making inroads in USA.
- Autonomous self-driving vehicles much in the



Other advantages of using the UDG's preferred broker

- the availability of a RIBA approved policy wording
- interest-free instalments
- simple process for quoting and renewing the cover
- service from a team that understands how urban designers differ from architects or town planners
- very competitive premiums

Find out what Lockton insurance can offer for any urban design practice. They can be

contacted on **0845 602 7217** or [urban.design@uk.lockton.com](mailto:urban.design@uk.lockton.com), or look at their website: [www.locktonaffinity.co.uk/urbandesign](http://www.locktonaffinity.co.uk/urbandesign).

## 2014 Events

### London Liveable Cities Film Series Part 1

#### Super Density - UDG CPRE London

With David Birkbeck, Design for Homes

Wed, 15/01/2014 - 6:30pm - 8:30pm

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/london-and-south-east/udg-cpre-london-liveable-cities-film-series-part-1-super-density>

*there is a waiting list for this event unfortunately*

### Urban Design Leaders of the Future

Tue, 28/01/2014 - 6:30pm - 8:30pm

We extend an open invitation to any Urban Design Group member who would like to give a 5 minute presentation at this event on any subject close to their heart such as....

- A policy that we need to implement
- A new form of design of dwelling, house, street or city
- Different forms of financing
- Changes to the way we educate and train people in the built environment
- Or a subject that is close to your heart....

This is your opportunity to tell us about what really matters to you and win over others.

Please contact [robert.huxford@udg.org.uk](mailto:robert.huxford@udg.org.uk) if you would like to take part.

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/urban-design-leaders-future>

### London Liveable Cities Film Series (Part 2):

#### Voices of Cohousing

#### UDG CPRE London

Mon, 03/02/2014 - 6:30pm - 8:30pm

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/london-and-south-east/udg-cpre-london-liveable-cities-film-series-part-2-voices-cohousing>

### The Psychology of Urban Design

28<sup>th</sup> February – at the Gallery

Including how the brain allows us to recognise places and navigate, and how we could design to

- news – but intelligent speed control lagging.
  - Balanced economies identified as a key objective for a healthy town – rather than one based narrowly on residential, retail and services.
  - Numerous reports published on future of High Streets – but fail to look sufficiently far forward on scope for increase in internet based retail. At what point will the increase tail off?
  - Poor sleep associated with a wide range of urban health problems including heart disease, obesity, anxieties and phobia. Noise and light pollution of concern. An issue for street lighting and development on busy roads and transport corridors.
  - Research continues to show the importance of vegetation to the wellbeing of people living in urban areas.
  - A questioning as to whether density is being pushed too far, and that social contact can suffer.
  - Water Sensitive Urban Design gains traction
- Plus 50 types of urbanism added to the lexicon.

#### ***What are your views?***

#### ***What are your predictions for 2014 for research, policy or practice?***

#### ***Join the debate on the Urban Design Email Forum!!***

<https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=URBANDESIGN>

## URBAN DESIGN AWARDS 2014

12 February 2014 - London

#### **To book your place...**

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/london-and-south-east/national-urban-design-awards-2014>

Voting for the Practice and Public Sector awards is underway

Voting for the Developer and Student Awards will begin shortly.

A small percentage of the premium is passed to Urban Design Group, so their on-going good work is supported while improving the practice's profitability!

Lockton will be contacting UDG practice members early in the New Year with a very brief phone call to see whether there would be any interest in receiving a no-obligation quotation.

## Urban New Year Quiz - Answers

The last edition of Urban Update of 2013 listed a number of terms that have been used in presentations or publications on urban subjects during the course of the year, and invited people to suggest what the terms actually mean. Several people have risen to the challenge offering definitions that vary between being useful or highly questionable. See what you think.

**Orbit theft** = no convincing explanation offered: eg the act of stealing the path of a celestial body or an artificial satellite as it revolves around another body, cutting someone up on a roundabout; or the theft of a particular brand of chewing gum.

**Vocadian notions** –this may have referred to the Vocadians, an objectionable extra-terrestrial race, arch enemies of the Klingons, and well-practiced in the art of orbit theft. A second explanation is that the term was misheard and was actually *Ricardian notions*, after the economist Ricardo – not that that helps very much. .

#### **Imagineries of built environment**

= imaginary things which float around towns ? Or was this again misheard and what was said was "Imagineers of the built environment" Imagineers are employees of the Disney Company, and perhaps what was being talked about was a sort of "Mickey Mouse" Urbanism. (Mickey Mouse – being used in the pejorative adjectival sense as something that is not as good, or as serious as it ought to be)

better reflect our abilities. Find out about place cells, and grid cells, and how easy it is to get lost.

## International Urban Design Conference 2014

### Urban Design for All

Nottingham - 18-20 September

Call for abstracts

<http://www.udg.org.uk/udupdate/news/national-conference-urban-design-2014-call-abstracts>

## Other events

### Street Talks

Movement for Liveable London

The quick, the cheap and the temporary: Speeding up the transformation of London's streets and public spaces

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan - The Gallery

<http://movementforliveablelondon.com/category/street-talks/>

### The Design Dimension of Planning (20 years on)

27<sup>th</sup> February at UCL

Matthew Carmona

<http://www.bartlett.ucl.ac.uk/planning/centenary-news-events-repository/urban-design-matthew-carmona>

### Ecobuild

4-6 March - London

<http://www.ecobuild.co.uk/>

### Urban Integration Symposium 2014

6-7 March – Sheffield

<http://www.udg.org.uk/events/north-east/urban-integration-symposium-2014>

### MIPIM

11-14 March -

<http://www.mipim.com/en/homepage/>

## Latest on Urbannous

### Careers in Urban Design

Videos for people thinking about their future

Working in Urban Design :

Leo Hammond. Senior Design Advisor. Design Council / CABE

<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/Leo-Hammond-Design-Council-CABE.htm>

### Employment in Urban Design

Katy Neaves. Associate Director. Turley Associates

<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/Katy-Neaves-Urban-Design.htm>

### Urban Design in Practice

Katja Stille. Associate. Tibbalds Planning and Design

<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/Katja-Stille-Urban-Design.htm>

<http://www.urbannous.org.uk/>

## Jobs / Tenders

### Garden Suburb Design Consultancy East Midlands

Tenders invited for consultancy to act as a critical friend of council at relevant stages of the master plan process of up to 3 days per month and to provide written advice/critique of masterplans and design phase.

The deadline for tender applications is 12:00 noon 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014. Please note that the deadline for requesting further information is 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2014.

<http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/east-midlands/garden-suburb-design-consultancy>

**Parametric** = emergency measurement (after paramedic – emergency medicine), a more serious explanation was: relating to distinguishing features (which can be measured);

**Parametric Urbanism** = emergency measurement in an urban context?

**Aleatory**- a beer for the Conservative voter (derived from Ale and Tory) or dependent on chance,

**Cartographic representation** = map.

**Cartographic positivism** = the proposition that map-making is an objective, transparent attempt to create an accurate recording of the area being mapped; (as opposed to something that is open to influence or bias), or *happy mapping*.

**Epistemological and ontological flexibility** = flexibility as to the branch of philosophy which studies the nature of knowledge; flexibility of the essence of being;

**Paradigmatic theorization** = turning to paradigmatic theory (see Kuhn), paradigm = a distinct concept or thought pattern

**Praxis** = the process by which a theory, lesson, or skill is enacted, practiced, embodied, or realised;

**Assemblage theory** = how to put things together? or 'an approach to systems analysis that emphasizes fluidity, exchangeability, and multiple functionalities' (?), or alternatively: 'a branch of thought about assembling things'

**Constitutive binarism** = a mode of thought predicated on stable oppositions, which becomes fundamental to... something more tangible than the idea of binarism;

**Cyborg urbanization** = "cyborg", is short for "cybernetic organism", a being with both organic and artificial parts – from this the meaning of cyborg urbanization should be clear (or not).

**Memetic** - relating to memes (units of cultural information)

**Neoliberal hegemony** = the dominance of ideas based on modern international capitalism. NB the g in hegemony is a hard "g". Pronunciation with a soft g may indicate blagging.

**Actant** = a word belonging to the field of Linguistics, meaning 'agent'

**Reflexivity** = the tendency of something to direct its

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## The 2015 Urbanism Awards are now open for nominations.

Visit [www.academyofurbanism.org.uk/awards/make-a-nomination](http://www.academyofurbanism.org.uk/awards/make-a-nomination) to nominate a great city, town, neighbourhood, street and place. The Awards focus on successful examples of urbanism in the UK and Ireland, extending to mainland Europe for The European City of the Year Award.

For more information call the Academy on +44 (0) 20 7251 8777. Deadline for nominations: 12:00 Wednesday 9 April 2014.

## LDA Design - Urban Designer

Oxford

Talented Urban Designer sought with approximately 5 years' experience in urban design and masterplanning, <http://www.udg.org.uk/jobs/lda-design-urban-designer>

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## Are you involved in water and urban design and interested in improving practice?

The Construction Industry Research and Information Association have a research project going, and are looking for advice from experienced practitioners. If you think you might be able to help please contact Robert Huxford.  
[Robert.huxford@ug.org.uk](mailto:Robert.huxford@ug.org.uk)

action back on itself (mainly used in grammar e.g. 'I kick myself')

**Epistemic culture** = 'the practices and beliefs that constitute a culture's attitude toward knowledge and its way of justifying knowledge'

**Critical urban theory** = we are into the Marxist school of analysing the society of towns and cities. See paper What is critical urban theory?

[http://comer-college.com/udb/cpro5y4q6/What\\_Is\\_Critical\\_Urban\\_Theory.pdf](http://comer-college.com/udb/cpro5y4q6/What_Is_Critical_Urban_Theory.pdf)

**Critical urban practice** = whereas "critical practice" usually means a methodology used to understand and evaluate a field of knowledge, critical urban practice is something to do with critical urban theory.

Armed with the knowledge of these terms, we are now equipped to go out to build the great cities of the future! Cities that will banish poverty, overcrowding, ill-health, stress and depression, and bring in an age of urban fulfilment and happiness. Hooray!

## New year's resolution

**Avoid jargon, use Latin-based terms reluctantly and never use Greek based-terms, (unless you are writing in a Romance language, or Greek).**

**If the message matters, it matters that people can understand it.**

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## International Urban Design News

### Australia

#### Malcolm Snow to head National Capital Authority

Mr Snow has won the Australian Award for urban design three times.

<http://www.canberraitimes.com.au/act-news/awardwinning-urban-planner-malcolm-snow-to-head-national-capital-authority-20131229-301v4.html>

#### City of Sydney and Transport for NSW sign on standards for New Light Rail

[http://www.newsmaker.com.au/news/28616/light-rail-agreement-ensures-city-transformation#\\_UshNRbTpxiY](http://www.newsmaker.com.au/news/28616/light-rail-agreement-ensures-city-transformation#_UshNRbTpxiY)

### India

#### Mapping Lahore through Urban Design

<http://www.brecorder.com/brief-recordings/0/1265919/mapping-lahore-through-urban-design-lab-founder-occo/?date=2013-12-20>

#### Mumbai Civic body sets up think tank to help solve traffic woes

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-12-31/mumbai/45738929\\_1\\_cycling-tracks-transport-pedestrian-plazas](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-12-31/mumbai/45738929_1_cycling-tracks-transport-pedestrian-plazas)

### New Zealand

#### Paving way to urban vitality

“It's about creating a sense of home” - David Engwicht

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/9559566/Paving-way-to-urban-vitality>

#### Making Christchurch dog-friendly

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/business/the-rebuild/9552704/Making-Christchurch-dog-friendly>

### Qatar

#### Qatari coastal city to double in size but won't kill the mangroves (photos)

<http://www.greenprophet.com/2013/12/qatari-coastal-city-double-killing-mangroves/>

### South Africa

#### Rebuilding South Africa's cities of the future

<http://mq.co.za/article/2014-01-02-rebuilding-south-africas-cities-of-the-future>

Introduces the term “telescopic urbanism”

## Research and Policy

### *Politics, Philosophy Economics*

#### Walkable Shopping Areas are Good for Business

According to the National Association of Realtors 2013 Community Preference Survey, 60 percent of respondents wanted communities with businesses and recreation that were easily to walk to rather than driving.

Report by Gary Hack, urban design professor at the University of Pennsylvania, notes that many of today's walkable urban shopping areas are prospering.

- To be successful, walkable retail areas need to cater to diverse needs and reach a critical mass.
- Successful retail areas encourage multi-purpose trips, which mean offering not only unique local shops but also more generic larger-format outlets and services. One successful strategy is to couple street oriented retail with a shopping center capable of accommodating large grocery, pharmacy, discount and leading brand stores.
- Rents in walkable shopping areas can be 27-54% higher than in non-walkable areas
- Where a shopping area develops a unique identity there can be “place dividend” with the area growing to 3 to 4 times as large as would be expected on walking catchment alone.
- The presence of walkable shopping areas increases nearby housing values. The increments vary and can be as much as 50%, particularly in denser communities.

[http://articles.mcall.com/2014-01-03/features/mc-walkability-sunday-real-estate-0105-20140103\\_1\\_walkability-easton-main-street-initiative-valley-community](http://articles.mcall.com/2014-01-03/features/mc-walkability-sunday-real-estate-0105-20140103_1_walkability-easton-main-street-initiative-valley-community)

#### Summary

<http://activelivingresearch.org/walkable-shopping-areas-are-good-business>

Full paper - Business Performance in Walkable Shopping Areas

[http://activelivingresearch.org/files/BusinessPerformanceWalkableShoppingAreas\\_Nov2013.pdf](http://activelivingresearch.org/files/BusinessPerformanceWalkableShoppingAreas_Nov2013.pdf)

#### Why high tech companies talk quality cities and urban design but practice something different

<http://www.qizmodo.in/design/When-Tech-Culture-And-Urbanism-Collide/articleshow/28301872.cms>

#### How Commercial Property Investment in Green Infrastructure Creates Value

<http://www.nrdc.org/water/files/commercial-value-green-infrastructure-report.pdf>

#### Crowdfunding for art projects may go better where the entrepreneur is the focus of the promotion

<http://tinyurl.com/nhxta6v>

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## United Kingdom

### Artificial light in the environment: DEFRA policy update

<http://site.westminster.ac.uk/psc/2014/01/artificial-light-in-the-environment-policy-update/>

### Destruction of ancient woodland 'highly unlikely' under plans to speed the planning process

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-25599249>

### Owenstown – a cooperative “garden city” for 5000 people proposed for Lanarkshire

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/green-living/dreams-of-utopia-in-a-potato-patch-young-families-rush-to-be-part-of-proposed-cooperative-town-with-lowcost-lowcarbon-homes-9039180.html>

<http://www.owenstown.org/>

### 10 Buildings that Changed England and a new book from English Heritage

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/culture/art/architecture/10549001/englands-best-buildings-top-ten-best-buildings-britain-english-heritage-simon-thurley-westminster-abbey.html>

### London boroughs lose office-to-flat planning battle

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-25463684>

### Urban design brought into focus by Partnership for the Rejuvenation of Maidenhead as MP Theresa May speaks of Maidenhead's 'bright future'

PRoM chairman Bob Dulson said its aim was to realise the community's ambitions for Maidenhead as a 'destination of choice'. This could be achieved through projects that reflected residents' desire for good urban design and high quality architecture.

<http://www.maidenhead-advertiser.co.uk/News/Areas/Maidenhead/MP-Theresa-May-speaks-of-Maidenheads-bright-future-23122013.htm>

## England

### Retail Planning Decisions under the National Planning Policy Framework

- Sequential test lacks teeth – qualitative rather than quantitative
- Development plans frequently inadequate
- Sequential and impact tests are not being recognised as gateways
- Little new retail development within towns is being achieved
- The NPPF has not succeeded in achieving increased retail investment in town centres and less out of centre – the reverse has occurred.
  - 9 percent of investment in studies was town centre
  - 14 percent edge of centre
  - 76 percent out of centre

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b03n3297/PQ\\_17\\_An\\_Arctic\\_Convoy\\_Disaster/](http://www.bbc.co.uk/iplayer/episode/b03n3297/PQ_17_An_Arctic_Convoy_Disaster/)

### Allocation of accommodation: guidance for local housing authorities in England

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/allocation-of-accommodation-guidance-for-local-housing-authorities-in-england>

### Colliers Predictions in Commercial Real Estate in 2014

[http://www.colliers.com/en-us/insights/market-news/2014-commercial-real-estate-predictions#\\_Us2izL\\_Toxia](http://www.colliers.com/en-us/insights/market-news/2014-commercial-real-estate-predictions#_Us2izL_Toxia)

### Deloitte Real Estate predictions for 2014

<http://www.deloittereal estate.co.uk/cmspages/getfile.aspx?quid=ebd90fe9-0649-4877-9f5e-937e26a9ce3e>

### Tourism industries in the EU - economic analysis

[http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics\\_explained/index.php/Tourism\\_industries\\_-\\_economic\\_analysis](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/statistics_explained/index.php/Tourism_industries_-_economic_analysis)

### URBACT II EU research programme results

Subjects include

- Economic Strategies in Medium Size Cities
- Quality of life in Historic Cities
- Electric vehicles

[http://urbact.eu/fileadmin/general\\_library/Urbaact\\_Project\\_Results\\_web.pdf](http://urbact.eu/fileadmin/general_library/Urbaact_Project_Results_web.pdf)

### Urban Land Institute top articles for 2013

[http://urbanland.uli.org/news/most-popular-uli-articles-for-2013/?utm\\_source=twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=magazine&vsmid=654](http://urbanland.uli.org/news/most-popular-uli-articles-for-2013/?utm_source=twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=magazine&vsmid=654)

## Energy and Climate Change

### Lawrence Livermore Laboratory diagram of USA energy use 2012

The chart shows how much energy is used in the USA, by which sector and how much is wasted – 61 percent is lost as waste heat. The largest consuming sector, transportation uses 28 per cent of the USA's energy and wastes over 80 per cent of it.

[https://flowcharts.llnl.gov/content/energy/energy\\_archive/energy\\_flow\\_2012/2012new2012newUSEnergy.png](https://flowcharts.llnl.gov/content/energy/energy_archive/energy_flow_2012/2012new2012newUSEnergy.png)

### Climate-change scepticism 'put flood defences at risk' as UK hit by yet more storms

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/owen-patersons-climate-change-scepticism-has-blinded-him-to-future-flooding-risks-9040033.html>

### Flood-hit UK must prepare for more extreme weather, says UK climate adviser Sir David King

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/jan/05/uk-prepare-extreme-weather-floods>

### Future Flooding was published in 2004 under an initiative chaired by Sir David King

<http://www.bis.gov.uk/foresight/our-work/projects/published-projects/flood-and-coastal-defence/project-outputs/volume-1>

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## USA

### WSDOT Endorses Design Guide To Rethink Streets As More Than Just Roadways

<http://www.kplu.org/post/wsdot-endorses-design-guide-rethink-streets-more-just-roadways>

Reference is to the new NACTO Urban Street Design Guidance

### Leadership Shakeup at U.S. DOT: What Will It Mean for Transit and Biking

<http://dc.streetsblog.org/2014/01/03/leadership-shakeup-at-u-s-dot-what-will-it-mean-for-transit-and-biking/>

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## Movement

### Cyclist Death Crashes: Just One In 10 Drivers Jailed

<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/london/40-cyclists-killed-4-drivers-jailed-exclusive-investigation-reveals-only-one-in-10-drivers-are-jailed-after-being-involved-in-cyclist-death-9034187.html>

### Road Diets in Long Beach

Examples of reallocating road space include:

- Protected cycle lanes
- Chevron parking instead of parallel parking

All of which can be achieved at the cost of road paint

<http://lbpost.com/place/design/2000003197-road-diets-of-recent-long-beach-past>

### *And for anyone who has yet to see it - bike lanes by Casey Neistat*

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bzE-lMaeqzQ>

### Autonomous Vehicle Technology: A Guide for Policymakers,

<http://www.rand.org/news/press/2014/01/06.html>

Full report

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR443.html](http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR443.html)

### Drivers engaged tasks other than driving about 10 percent of the time

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/jan2014/nichd-01.htm>

### European Commission Report – on European attitudes to Urban Mobility

[http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs\\_406\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/ebs/ebs_406_en.pdf)

### Expanding Airport Capacity under Constraints in Large Urban Areas

<http://www.internationaltransportforum.org/itrc/RoundTables/2013-Expanding-Airport-Capacity/index.html>

### Wirelessly charged electric buses set for Milton Keynes

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-25621426>

## Built Environment

### “Happy City – Charles Montgomery NY Times article

“If city planners and developers paid more attention to the growing body of knowledge about happiness, they could create cities that enhance the contentment of those who live in them”

- Shorter commutes
- Green spaces
- Informal contact with other people in the neighbourhood
  - o Public spaces designed for conviviality
  - o

[http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/05/books/review/charles-montgomerys-happy-city.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2014/01/05/books/review/charles-montgomerys-happy-city.html?_r=0)

### Happy City: Transforming Our Lives Through Urban Design

<http://thehappycity.com/the-happy-city/>

### Theory and Reality and the Post-Sprawl City: Part 3 of a Review of Landscape Urbanism and its Discontents

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/frank-gruber/theory-and-reality-and-th\\_b\\_4509069.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/frank-gruber/theory-and-reality-and-th_b_4509069.html)

Part 2

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/frank-gruber/campuses-belong-to-the-pe\\_b\\_4368369.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/frank-gruber/campuses-belong-to-the-pe_b_4368369.html)

### It's time to dump the tired argument that density and height are green and sustainable.

<http://www.treehugger.com/urban-design/its-time-dump-tired-argument-density-and-height-are-green-and-sustainable.html>

### Skyscrapers Now House Everything From Schools to Cemeteries

<http://www.businessweek.com/articles/2013-12-19/skyscrapers-now-house-everything-from-schools-to-cemeteries>

### How Do You Tell a Whole City to Shush?

[http://www.slate.com/blogs/future\\_tense/2013/12/30/urban\\_noise\\_pollution\\_how\\_do\\_you\\_tell\\_a\\_whole\\_city\\_to\\_shush.html](http://www.slate.com/blogs/future_tense/2013/12/30/urban_noise_pollution_how_do_you_tell_a_whole_city_to_shush.html)

### *Map of Noise Complaints in New York 1922*

[http://www.slate.com/blogs/the\\_vault/2013/12/30/digital\\_archives\\_five\\_great\\_historical\\_sites\\_of\\_2013.html](http://www.slate.com/blogs/the_vault/2013/12/30/digital_archives_five_great_historical_sites_of_2013.html)

### How humans made squirrels part of the urban environment

[http://nautil.us/blog/how-humans-made-squirrels-a-part-of-the-urban-environment?ico=home\\*editors\\_choice](http://nautil.us/blog/how-humans-made-squirrels-a-part-of-the-urban-environment?ico=home*editors_choice)

### We need a Jamie Oliver of architecture to save us from uninspiring design says Living Architecture founder Alain de Botton

<http://www.independent.co.uk/arts-entertainment/architecture/we-need-a-jamie-oliver-of-architecture-to-save-us-from-uninspiring-design-says-living-architecture-founder-alain-de-botton-9022994.html>

### Urbanisation in Asia boosts prospect of sustainable growth

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/Urbanisation-in-Asia-boosts-prospect-of-sustainable-30222374.html>

### Ciclovía: Open Streets Throughout Latin America

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rex-burkholder/ciclovía-open-streets-thr\\_b\\_4498710.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rex-burkholder/ciclovía-open-streets-thr_b_4498710.html)

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## Humans, Health, Society

### Up to 49 percent of US males arrested by age of 23

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2014-01/uosc-sho010314.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2014-01/uosc-sho010314.php)

### Lack of sleep may promote neurodegenerative processes

[http://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2013-12/uu-stp122913.php](http://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2013-12/uu-stp122913.php)

## A Look at Parklets

<http://la.streetsblog.org/2013/12/19/a-look-at-parklets-from-the-l-a-forum-l-a-interrupted/>

## Building Technology Trends

Modular buildings, prefabs, smart keys and locks, crowdsourcing and the use of data.

<http://www.building4change.com/page.jsp?id=2147>

## Chartered Institute of Housing – Where is Housing heading – Policy Essays

<http://www.cih.org/policvessavs>

## Eco City Frameworks – a listing of 43 different schemes produced by the University of Westminster

[https://www.westminster.ac.uk/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/278400/Eco-City-Frameworks-Global-Overview-WEBPUBLICATION-December-13.pdf?utm\\_source=Eco-cities&utm\\_campaign=c602a44b97-Eco\\_cities-february&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_381f89faa9-c602a44b97-320811069#!](https://www.westminster.ac.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/278400/Eco-City-Frameworks-Global-Overview-WEBPUBLICATION-December-13.pdf?utm_source=Eco-cities&utm_campaign=c602a44b97-Eco_cities-february&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_381f89faa9-c602a44b97-320811069#!)



This e-mail newsletter is sent to members of the Urban Design Group and to people who share a common interest in improving life in cities, towns and villages. If you don't want to receive it, please reply to this email, or phone Robert or Louise at the Urban Design Group on 020 7250 0892.

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